## IN THE CLAIMS

- 1-21 (canceled)
- 22. (currently amended) A method of conducting polymerizations in nonaqueous miniemulsions,

comprising producing a nonaqueous miniemulsion comprising reactants of a polymerization in a nonaqueous fluid dispersing medium, a surfactant and an osmotically stabilizing component, and polymerizing said reactants to vield a polymerization product, wherein said miniemulsion contains not greater than 10% by weight water, wherein a miniemulsion is formed from a disperse phase of polar reactants in a continuous apolar organic phase and wherein said osmotically stabilizing component is a hydrophilic substance, wherein the average particle size of the polymerization product is from 30 to 600 nanometers.

- 23. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 22, wherein the polymerization is selected from addition polymerization reactions, polyaddition reactions, and polycondensation reactions.
- 24. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the polymerization comprises an addition polymerization of acrylic or styrene monomers.
- 25. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the polymerization comprises a polyaddition of polyfunctional epoxides with at least one of hydroxy, amino and thiol compounds.
- 26. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the polymerization comprises a polyaddition of polyfunctional isocyanates with at least one polyfunctional hydroxy or amino compounds.

- 27. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the polymerization comprises a polycondensation of polyfunctional carboxylic acids with polyfunctional hydroxy or amino compounds.
  - 28. (canceled)
  - 29. (canceled)
- 30. (currently amended) A method of conducting polymerizations in nonaqueous miniemulsions,

comprising producing a nonaqueous miniemulsion comprising reactants of a polymerization in a nonaqueous fluid dispersing medium, a surfactant and an osmotically stabilizing component, and polymerizing said reactants, wherein said miniemulsion contains not greater than 10% by weight water, wherein a miniemulsion is formed from a disperse phase of apolar reactants in a continuous polar organic phase and wherein said osmotically stabilizing component is a hydrophobic substance.

- 31. (canceled)
- 32. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 30, wherein the osmotically stabilizing component is added in an amount of from 0.1 to 40% by weight based on the overall weight of the emulsion.
- 33. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the average particle size of the emulsion is situated in the range from 30 to 600 nm.
- 34. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 33, wherein an emulsion is produced which is critically stabilized or thermodynamically stable with respect to an alteration in particle size.

- 35. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 34, wherein the emulsion further comprises dispersed therein particulate solids.
- 36. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 35, wherein the polymerization takes place without substantial alteration in the particle size.
  - 37. (canceled)
  - 38. (canceled)
  - 39. (canceled)
  - 40. (canceled)
  - 41. (canceled)
  - 42. (canceled)
- 43. (currently amended) The method of claim 22 29, wherein said hydrophilic substance is water or a salt.
  - 44. (canceled)
- 45. (currently amended) A method of conducting polymerizations in nonaqueous miniemulsions,

comprising producing a nonaqueous miniemulsion having a water content not greater than 10% by weight comprising reactants of a polymerization in a nonaqueous fluid dispersing medium, a surfactant and a hydrophilic osmotically stabilizing agent selected form the group consisting of water, a salt or a combination thereof in an amount sufficient to osmotically stabilize the miniemulsion, and polymerizing said reactants to yield a polymerization product having an average particle size of from 30 to 600 nanometers.

- 46. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the polymerization is selected from addition polymerization reactions, polyaddition reactions, and polycondensation reactions.
- 47. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the polymerization comprises an addition polymerization of acrylic or styrene monomers.
- 48. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the polymerization comprises a polyaddition of polyfunctional epoxides with at least one of bydroxy, amino and thiol compounds.
- 49. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the polymerization comprises a polyaddition of polyfunctional isocyanates with at least one polyfunctional hydroxy or amino compounds.
- 50. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the polymerization comprises a polycondensation of polyfunctional carboxylic acids with polyfunctional hydroxy or amino compounds.
  - 51. (canceled)
- 52. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein an emulsion is produced which is critically stabilized or thermodynamically stable with respect to an alteration in particle size.
- 53. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 45, wherein the emulsion further comprises dispersed therein particulate solids.
- 54. (previously presented) The method as claimed in claim 53, wherein the polymerization takes place without substantial alteration in the particle size.